

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CG-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03

NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15

TRSE-00 SAJ-01 OMB-01 ACDA-19 H-03 NSC-10 SS-20 IO-14

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UNCLAS REYKJAVIK 1491

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TAGS: PFOR, MARR, IC, NATO

SUBJECT: IDF RETENTION ISSUE

REF: REYKJAVIK 1485

1. PEOPLES ALLIANCE PARTY DAILY NEWSPAPER THJODVILJINN CARRIED FRONT PAGE STORY DEC 7, 1973 HEADLINED: "WHEN IS THE NATO COUNCIL ALLOWED TO PASS RESOLUTIONS?" IT IS A REPLY TO THE MORGUNBLADID STORY OF DEC 6. FULL TEXT OF THJODVILJINN ARTICLE FOLLOWS:

2. QUOTE: YESTERDAY MORGUNBLADID ANNOUNCED WITH GREAT PLEASURE THAT NATO HAD URGED ICELANDERS TO SECURE THE CONTINUED USE OF KEFLAVIK AIRPORT FOR THE AMERICANS.

THE PROCLAIMED POLICY OF THE ICELANDIC GOVT IS THAT THE AMERICAN DEFENSE FORCE LEAVE KEFLAVIK AIRPORT IN THE NEAR FUTURE BUT IT IS ALSO KNOWN THAT THE AMERICANS WANT TO STAY ON.

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THEREFORE THIS IS A CASE OF DISPUTE BETWEEN TWO NATO

COUNTRIES ON A MATTER OF GREAT IMPORTANCE.

A SHORT TIME AGO THERE WAS A DISPUTE BETWEEN ICELAND AND BRITAIN CAUSED BY THE ATTACK OF ONE NATO COUNTRY ON THE FISHERIES LIMITS OF ANOTHER NATO COUNTRY. THEN MORGUNBLADID STATED DAY AFTER DAY THAT ALTHOUGH WE HAD FRIENDS IN THE NATO COUNCIL IT COULD NOT PASS ANY RESOLUTIONS BECAUSE THE COUNCIL COULD NOT TAKE A PUBLIC STAND IN DISPUTES BETWEEN TWO MEMBERS OF THE ALLIANCE.

BECAUSE OF THE NEWS IN MORGUNBLADID YESTERDAY THE FRIENDS OF NATO IN ICELAND MIGHT WANT TO GET INFORMATION ABOUT THE FOLLOWING QUESTION:

WHEN IS THE NATO COUNCIL ALLOWED TO PASS RESOLUTIONS IN DISPUTES BETWEEN TWO MEMBERS OF THE ALLIANCE AND WHEN NOT?

WE ASK BECAUSE WE DON'T KNOW THE ANSWER. IF GEIR HALLGRIMSSON (CHAIRMAN OF INDEPENDENCE PARTY) CANNOT USE HIS GOOD CONNECTIONS TO GET HIS ANSWER TO THE NATION PRINTED IN MORGUNBLADID WE SHALL FIND ROOM FOR HIM IN THJODVILJINN. END QUOTE.

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